

May 22, 1975

SENATOR RASMUSSEN: That's correct.

SENATOR MARSH: Do you support all of his decisions, or just this one?

SENATOR RASMUSSEN: I do not, but the ... I had the honor to serve on the Ag Committee. We worked quite hard on this. At that time I was very much in favor. Of course, if it was built here in Nebraska so much the better. This philosophy was mine. If I can help it any way I'm all for it, not necessarily just because it came from one regent. He had been in contact with the board that's deciding this, Senator Marsh.

SENATOR MARSH: Do you also have an approximation on how many multi-million dollars we're talking about will be expected from the State of Nebraska if the Legislature goes on record as favoring this idea?

SENATOR RASMUSSEN: This is a five state deal, where all five states will cooperate to build this. Senator Marsh, I don't think we could probably hope to be lucky enough to get it. I certainly think it's worth every effort to give it a try. This involves no money. It goes on record that we are in favor of putting it in Nebraska if, whoever decides it, we can have it.

SENATOR MARSH: Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, members of the Legislature. I rise in support of the resolution. I think that Senator Burrows and Senator Rasmussen when they drafted the resolution had good intentions. There is extreme interest in building a new veterinary college in the midwest area somewhere. We know there's going to be a need, based upon projected development of the livestock industry, for additional veterinarians. Another point I want to make is the first year I was down here, in 1969, this Legislature passed the wholesome meat act which gobbled up a whale of a bunch of veterinarians. Every day we are here we see increased evidence of governmental regulations that require additional veterinarians. These veterinarians, of course, are then called upon from the ranks of those who would be in general practice. I really can't say that I blame them because they can work regular hours. They work under very fine conditions. They work in the best of areas in the large metropolitan areas usually. They're not called upon for night calls, or farm calls, or large animal work and that sort of thing, all of those things which have become increasingly distasteful. We had to find new sources of material for veterinary colleges. We have to train additional veterinarians, if we're going to meet the legitimate needs of the livestock industry of the State of Nebraska. We know that it's going to be expensive to participate in this kind of an activity. I want to go on record here as saying that I think the livestock industry is worth more than a billion dollars in the State of Nebraska perhaps can justify. The investment that's